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30 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Knoche

SUBJECT : Briefing for General Howze, CINCUNC

1. This memorandum is for your information only.

2. Recently, Col. Hauser Wilson, AFIGO-S, received a cable from PACAF quoting a cable from 5th Air Force which stated that 5th Air Force had received a query from U.S. Forces Korea staff pertaining to questions concerning special flights [redacted] which had been posed by General Howze, to wit:

a. How are pilots briefed concerning possible forced landings at strange but friendly airfields (e. g. [redacted])

b. How are special aircraft marked?

c. What cover story would be given by CINCUNC if queries are made by witnesses to special mission operation?

3. In conclusion the 5th Air Force cable raised the question of whether they were the proper channel for furnishing this information to Gen. Howze.

4. In response to Col. Wilson's request for guidance, we suggested that Mr. John McMahon, OSA, who is going to be in [redacted] [redacted] on other business, contact the appropriate

USAF review(s) completed.

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clear personnel at Hqs. PACAF and provide them with a recommended reply to the 5th Air Force cable. The reply, in substance, would be as follows:

"Regarding queries to CINCUNC or any other U. S. authority in the Far East on special [REDACTED] knowledge of such operations will be denied. This is unilateral [REDACTED] activity. If at any time a U. S. statement is deemed advisable, it will be the responsibility of the Department of State (Washington, D. C.). Agree 5th Air Force not proper channel to General Howze on this subject. We will take necessary steps to see latter briefed proper procedures. No further action required your Headquarters."

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5. To accommodate General Howze's requirement, we are arranging to have [REDACTED] of the OSA Security Staff, who will be visiting [REDACTED] on other matters [REDACTED] [REDACTED] contact Gen. Howze through the [REDACTED] and provide him with whatever information he needs.

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6. At present, our records do not indicate that General Howze possesses an IDEALIST/TACKLE clearance. [REDACTED] will be prepared to brief General Howze on those aspects of the program of concern to him. He will also ask him to take whatever measures he deems necessary to preclude any further queries of this nature through improper channels.

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7. This matter has been coordinated with FE Division, DDP.

[REDACTED]

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Special Assistant for Liaison
Office of Special Activities

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